Rail-cum-road bridge at Saraighat under NHDP

1502. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam has represented for converting the proposed road bridge at Saraighat under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) to a rail cum road bridge; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and target set with total annual allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Government of Assam had sent a request in December, 2006 for conversion of bridge at Saraighat from road bridge to rail cum road bridge. The work of construction of road bridge at Saraighat was already awarded in May, 2006. Since the work had already been awarded, any change at that stage may have resulted in contractual difficulties and subsequent litigations and hence, it was not possible to accede to the request of Government of Assam.

Missing of completion dates of projects funded by WB and ADB

1503. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 11 road projects funded by World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) involving a total project outlay of Rs. 23,566 crores have missed their completion targets, with time over runs in 1 project stretching beyond 64 months;

(b) the status of the WB funded Fathepur-Khaga highway and the ADB funded Orai-Jhansi highway which are slated for completion by 2010;

(c) whether the funding agencies have taken up the matter with Government expressing concern over abnormal delay in completion of road projects by NHAI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. 35 road projects funded by World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) involving a total project outlay of Rs. 9630.16 crores have missed their completion targets; with time over runs in 1 project of about 62 months.

(b) Physical progress of Fathepur-Khaga highway and Orai-Jhansi highway are about 94.4 % and 60.21 % respectively by November 2009.

(c) and (d) The World Bank has raised the matter of delay with the Government in respect of Lucknow Muzaffarpur National Highway Project (LMNHP). A proposal to delink four projects of LMNHP from Loan No-4764-IN due to poor performance of the contractors has been sent to World Bank.